

WHO CAN BE IN GOD'S PRESENCE? Psalm 15

April 16, 2023 Pastor Trevor Cooper

Psalm 15 is a shift of focus from what we do as we worship God with our life — to who we are as we worship God with our life. Our worship and life in God are grounded more in ethical behavior than in liturgical correctness, yet both are still important. So, we will focus on our behavior modification and our hearts rather than the ritual performances. Keep in mind, the only way we have a true behavior modification is to have a true heart transformation through Christ Jesus.

Psalm 15:1-5

"O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? 2 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; 3 who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend; 4 in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord; who swears to his own hurt and does not change; 5 who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved."

1. The Righteous Person has a MORAL RESPONSIBILITY in The PRESENCE of God. (v 1)

2. The Acceptable Behavior for Worship is...

- A Person Who Exhibits INTEGRITY. (v 2)
- A Person's DEEDS Exhibits JUSTICE.
- A Person's WORDS Exhibits RELIABILITY.
- A Person Who Does Not Speak GOSSIP. (v 3)
- A Person Who Does Not HARM Others.
- A Person Who Does Not <u>SPEAK EVIL</u> of Friends.
- A Person Who Views The Evil as REJECTED. (v 4)

"Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, 5 saying "When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, 6 that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and sell the chaff of the wheat?" Amos 8:4-6

- A Person Who <u>RESPECTS</u> God's <u>PEOPLE</u>.
- A Person Who is <u>ACCOUNTABLE</u>.
- A Person Who is not FICKLE.
- A Person Who is not <u>GREEDY</u>. (v 5)

"You may charge a foreigner interest, but you may not charge your brother interest, that the Lord your God may bless you in all that you undertake in the land that you are entering to take possession of it." **Deuteronomy 23:20**

• A Person Who Cannot Be BOUGHT.

3. The Morally Responsible Person Finds SECURITY in the Lord's HOUSE. (v. 5)

Is your relationship with God stable? Do you have security in the LORD by trusting in Jesus Christ as Lord? He guarantees access to God the Father. He gives us the spiritual ability to worship God with our life. By His righteousness & His adoption of us as sons and daughters we can enter the Lord's presence.

Salvation through Jesus Christ

The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness. Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.